

Increase in petro-charged exports

2275. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the growth in the export market is mainly due to petro-charged exports while the traditional sector exports are declining; if so, whether in the wake of this situation, there is a big imbalance between petro-charged exports and traditional sector items; and

(b) the move initiated to set right the imbalance and to improve the traditional oriented products, which are labour intensive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH):

(a) and (b) India's exports have diversified over the years into technology and skill intensive products such as engineering goods, pharmaceuticals, electronic goods, etc. from traditional exports such as tea, coffee, gems and jewellery, textiles, etc. Export of petroleum products has recorded a significant growth in recent years backed by expansion of domestic refining capacity and driven by rising international prices. The diversification of exports is a sign of strength rather than weakness or imbalance. However, to ensure that traditional and labour intensive exports receive a boost, sector specific focus has been in the Foreign Trade Policy to agricultural products, processed foods, marine products, leather, gems and jewellery, toys, sports goods, handicrafts and handlooms.

Increase in trade with Brazil

2276. DR. K. MALAISAMY. Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether consequent to the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister with a sizeable delegation of business to Brazil has generated enormous goodwill and environmental ensuring extension of trade;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) when India had been doing \$ 6 billion worth of trade and China doing at \$ 40 billion, how much increase is expected and within how much time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) During the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister to Brazil from September 11—14, 2006, the two sides resolved to create an enabling environment to deepen and diversify the growing commercial and economic interaction encompassing trade, investment and technology.

(c) The volume of our trade with Brazil is expected to increase in coming years. However, any time-bound trade target has not been fixed.

Export of leather products

2277. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made in regard to export of leather products during each of the last three years alongwith the targets fixed for the purpose;

(b) whether Government have chalked out any action plan to further boost the export of diversified leather products; and

(c) if so, the details of the achievements proposed to be made including the assistance proposed to be rendered by Government to the leather exporters and producers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Details of target and actual exports of leather and leather goods for last three years are as below:

(in million US \$)

Year	Export Target	Actual Export
2003-04	2000	2216.45
2004-05	2284	2495.37
2005-06	2675	2694.59

(b) and (c) Leather sector is identified as 'thrust sector' on account of